

Dear Ms Bett,

Homework has always been a debatable topic and the age group of which it is given to has been a big part of the issue. Students below year 11 should not be given work to complete at home unless it is revision for a test or to finish unfinished work, due to behavior in class. Weekends should also be homework-free. This is because homework causes conflict between family members, takes time away from children learning about vital real life experiences and reinforces bad habits.

Homework has a strong impact on relationships at home. Frustration at not being able to figure out the answer to a question can lead to heated arguments between a family. A study by Professor Curt Dudley-Marling revealed that many parents get into disagreements with their children because they are being overwhelmed with homework. 'Betty Blake worried that fights over homework harmed her relationship with her son. "I try not to yell, but I don't know what else to do...I get so frustrated. I don't even know what to say any more... He gets very upset when I yell at him to the point where he cries."' Lack of sleep caused by late night studies can raise tempers whilst also dropping their working abilities at school. It is proven that lack of sleep has a negative effect on school performances, according to an article published in 'The Journal of School Health'. Kids also tend to resent parents and teachers for forcing them to complete homework, which is why France's parents and teachers formed a boycott on homework for two weeks as the UK newspaper, 'The Guardian' reported. It is because of this that homework should not be given to students until it is absolutely necessary in the later years of schooling, when they can handle it better.

Students are constantly being kept inside to do homework, instead of being outside or experiencing vital life lessons. No student should have to substitute their childhood for work. Kids should be given time to play, relax and enjoy themselves and not sit inside in boredom. Students often tend to dislike homework so sports, hobbies and other extra activities are put first, which makes grades suffer. A nineteen-year-old Australian high school student excelled in school, but refused to do homework. He claims that "[his] marks were torn to shreds" because he failed to do homework. This means that there is an enormous amount of pressure put into the completion of homework, leaving no time to learn how to socialize, cook, clean and other life experiences. No time for exercising can also lead to obesity which is a big issue in Australia at this current time. Because students have very limited free time due to homework, they cannot learn the real life necessities in their early years. This is why only students of year 11 and up should be expected to do homework, when they have already experienced important life lessons outside of school.

COT, WHI, CWN,
HYL, GRA, MNT